Mom.

Thank you for your encouragement, support and questions through the years. You were and are a constant example of what a great person I could become and I am still striving to better – I love and thank you for that and so much more. Happy Valentine's Day. Love,

Shanda

To: Mike

Happy V-day, Mike,

I love you and miss you, now and always...me

From: Nancy Shrope

To: Lisa

Love you always!

From: **Kevin**

P.S. Casey and Jordan, love ya too!

To: Mom and Dad.

You can not know how much your support has meant to me. I couldn't have done it without you I miss you, I love you,

From: **Jessie**

To: Lisa, Zac and Maia,

You make me smile every day. I am so lucky to have such a loving and supportive family. I love you all dearly.

From: John Casterline

To: Jen

Happy Valentine's Day BabyDoll. You make my life more special then I could have ever dreamed of. I Love you!

From: **Corey**

To: Clarence S. Harrison

The most wonderful husband in the world. I am so in love with you and so blessed to have you in my life.

Love Michelle

St. Valentine

The mystery behind the holiday

Roses and wine. Dinner divine Won't vou be My Valentine?

Poems like this and others have been around for centuries, but what is the true history of Valentine's Day?

The feast of St. Valentine was instituted in the fifth century by Pope Gelasius, however it is not known which St. Valentine the feast was honoring.

The Roman Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. The mystery is deepened further that even the stories of the saints are muddled.

One story says Valentine was a priest in Rome during the third century. The emperor Claudius II had forbidden young men to marry because he believed that single men with no attachments or families to worry about made better soldiers. Valentine married couples in spite of the decree and was put to death when his actions were revealed.

Other stories suggest Valentine was killed for helping Christians escape from Roman prisons.

Valentine even sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself according to yet a third legend. While in prison Valentine fell in love with a young girl, even healed her of blindness. On the night before he was executed he sent her a letter signed "From your Valentine" a greeting still used in today's Valentine's Day greeting cards.



ebrated by the Catholic grown so much by the

To: Stew

From: **Roberta**

Mother of my children,

Forever 'till we're old.

With this gift I dedicate,

two score and four years,

Heartfelt to the soul,

To: **Yvonne**

While the Feast of St. Valentine is no longer cel-Church, its popularity had seventeenth century it no longer matters. Today an estimated one billion valentine cards are sent each year according to the Greeting Card Association. That

> makes it the second largest card sending holiday of the year, just after Christmas.

Happy Valentines Day Honey Bunny! I love you with all of

my heart!!! XXXOOOXXXOOOXXX

Of love and hope and peace and joy,

The popularity of valentine greetings goes as far back as the middle ages and written valentines began to appear around

Another Valentine's Day legend is that Charles, duke of Orleans, sent the first valentine card to his wife in 1415. At the time the duke was imprisoned in the Tower of

During the eighteenth century in Great Britain all classes of people exchanged gifts and greetings. By the end of the century, printed cards began to overtake hand written notes. And in the 1840 Esther Howland began sell mass produced valentines in

Cheaper postage rates and improvements in printing technology contributed to this shift. The eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were also times when expressing feelings were frowned upon by society so a greeting card simplified expressing emotions.

So whatever way you say it, in card, poem or person, Happy Valentine's Day has

been around a long time. (Information from www.historychannel .com, http://penelope.uchicago.edu and www.americancatholic .org contributed to this article.)

Photo cutline: Senior Airman Richard Brown, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron readiness journeyman, hugs Airman 1st Class Petra Sapp, 39th Security Forces Squadron member, after she accepted his marriage proposal. (Courtesy photo)

And celebrate undying love, With cheerful, loving tears.

So go with me this precious day And honor with me with your stay I'll be with you through thick and thin And worship you 'till the end.

I love you Yvonne, Happy Valentines Day 2005!!!! From: **Don**

To: Esteban.

Thank you so much for being such a wonderful blessing in my life and helping to make the last nine years amongst my happiest. Happy Valentine's Day and Happy Anniversary. Love.

Shanda

Shanda.

You are on my mind and with the me of today. And the me of tomorrow loves the you of yesterday.

And when we're old And when we're gone I'll always remember You with me at Botcon. -Esteban

To:Todd

Nineteen years is not enough. Thank you for being my partner and best friend. PS How about eggs for dinner! Love, Sharon

To: Donnie Timon I STILL DO....YES From: Mandy Timon

To: Tom.

You have all of my love and my respect forever. Happy Valentine's Day.

Love, Amy

To: all the PWOC ladies,

Happy Valentine's Day! Remember above all, Jesus loves you this day and always!

From: **Amy**

To: all my spinning buddies,

You brighten those early mornings! Spinningly, Amy